



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OCT 19 1975

THE ADMINISTRATOR

Dear Governor Holshouser:

With great pleasure I am today approving your request to conduct a State permit program pursuant to the provisions of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) under Section 402 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (the Act). Pursuant to Section 402(c) of the Act, I am suspending, as of this date, the issuance of permits by the Environmental Protection Agency under Section 402(a) of the Act regarding discharges in the State of North Carolina other than those from agencies and instrumentalities of the Federal Government.

The program that you conduct pursuant to this authority must at all times be in accordance with Section 402 of the Act, all guidelines promulgated pursuant to Section 304(h)(2) of the Act, and the enclosed Memorandum of Agreement signed by Mr. Jack E. Ravan, Regional Administrator of Region IV, Mr. John W. Thomas, Jr., the Chairman of the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission, and Mr. James E. Harrington, the Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Natural and Economic Resources, which I have also approved today.

North Carolina has demonstrated great capability, patience, and cooperation in the development of its permit program. You, your staff, the North Carolina Legislature, and the personnel of the Environmental Management Commission and the Department of Natural and Economic Resources should feel justifiable pride and satisfaction upon assuming administration of this important environmental program.

151 pers.
John Bell
returned to ~~E. Carter~~
for dispatch X58731

I am gratified by the personal role you have played in getting North Carolina's permit program approved. It was my pleasure to have met with Jim Harrington here in Washington as part of this effort. Because of the continued interest and support which you and Mr. Harrington have shown, I am optimistic that North Carolina will become a leader in the southeast in the control of water pollution.

I support strongly North Carolina's commitment to issue all remaining NPDES permits promptly. In closing, I commend you for your State's continued cooperation in the effort to restore the quality of the nation's waters.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ John Quarles, Deputy

for Russell E. Train

Honorable James E. Holshouser, Jr.
Governor of North Carolina
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

Enclosure

cc: Mr. James E. Harrington
Mr. John W. Thomas, Jr.

bcc: AX(3)
OE Chron & Reading, EG-329
Regional Administrator, Region IV
Regional Counsel, Region IV
Enforcement Director, Region IV
Mr. Miller, EN-335
Mr. Emmett, EN-338
John Bell, EN-338

Prepared by JBell/cmc/10-9-75/EN-338/x58731
Retyped/rsp/10-9-75/EN-338/x58731
2nd page retyped/cmc/10-14-75
2nd page retyped/cmc/10-15-75